IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-28 without prejudice or disclaimer, and substitute new claims 25-56 therefor as follows:

Claims 1-28 (Cancelled).

29. (New) A multipolar cable for transmitting energy and/or signals comprising:

at least three transmissive elements; and

a sheath in which at least three longitudinal housings are defined, said longitudinal housings being intended to house respectively said at least three transmissive elements according to a predetermined configuration and being formed within respective substantially lobe-shaped longitudinal portions of the sheath.

30. (New) The cable according to claim 29, wherein said longitudinal housings are angularly staggered from each other by a predetermined angle.

31. (New) The cable according to claim 29, wherein said substantially lobe-shaped longitudinal portions of the sheath are reciprocally connected by connecting portions having a predetermined bending radius.

32. (New) The cable according to claim 29, wherein a further longitudinal housing is defined in said sheath, said further longitudinal housing being arranged centrally to the cable.

33. (New) The cable according to claim 32, wherein said further longitudinal housing houses a longitudinal reinforcing element of the cable.

34. (New) The cable according to claim 32, wherein said further longitudinal housing houses a neutral element of the cable.

35. (New) The cable according to claim 32, wherein said further longitudinal housing has a substantially circular cross-section.

36. (New) The cable according to claim 29, wherein said sheath is provided with at least two identifying elements of the transmissive elements formed at two adjacent substantially lobe-shaped longitudinal portions of the sheath.

37. (New) A method for the production of a multipolar cable for transmitting energy and/or signals of the type comprising:

a plurality of transmissive elements; and

a sheath in which a plurality of longitudinal housings are defined, said longitudinal housings being intended to house respectively said plurality of transmissive elements according to a predetermined configuration;

said method comprising the steps of:

providing said plurality of transmissive elements according to said predetermined configuration;

feeding said plurality of transmissive elements to an extrusion head; and

extruding said sheath around said plurality of transmissive elements maintaining said plurality of transmissive elements in said predetermined configuration; wherein, during said extrusion step, said transmissive elements are moved forward within a plurality of guiding ducts coaxially housed in a female die, said guiding ducts being arranged according to said predetermined configuration.

38. (New) The method according to claim 37, wherein said guiding ducts are equidistant from each other and reciprocally spaced by a predetermined distance.

39. (New) The method according to claim 37, wherein said guiding ducts are angularly staggered from each other by a predetermined angle.

40. The method according to claim 37, wherein said female die comprises a first portion comprising a multi-lobed radially inner wall adapted to form a sheath comprising a plurality of substantially lobe-shaped longitudinal portions.

41. (New) The method according to claim 40, wherein at least two adjacent lobes of said first portion of the female die are provided with respective longitudinal protrusions so as to form a sheath provided with corresponding longitudinal grooves at two adjacent substantially lobe-shaped longitudinal portions of the sheath.

42. (New) The method according to claim 37, wherein said extrusion step is carried out in such a manner as to form in said sheath a further longitudinal housing arranged centrally to the cable.

43. (New) The method according to claim 42, comprising the further steps of providing and feeding a longitudinal reinforcing element to said extrusion head, said longitudinal reinforcing element being intended to be housed in said further longitudinal housing.

44. (New) The method according to claim 37, wherein a flow shutter element is positioned among said guiding ducts to define a plurality of first interspaces between said flow shutter element and each of said guiding ducts and a second interspace between said flow shutter element and said first portion of the female die.

45. (New) The method according to claim 44, wherein said flow shutter element has a shape substantially mating said plurality of guiding ducts and said first portion of the female die.

46. (New) The method according to claim 44, wherein said plurality of first interspaces has a substantially constant thickness.

47. (New) The method according to claim 44, wherein said female die is provided with at least one longitudinal protrusion positioned in an intermediate zone between two adjacent guiding ducts and intended to form a respective weakening line of the sheath of the cable.

48. (New) An extrusion apparatus for the production of a multipolar cable for transmitting energy and/or signals of the type comprising:

a plurality of transmissive elements; and

a sheath in which a plurality of longitudinal housings is defined, said longitudinal housings being intended to house respectively said plurality of transmissive elements according to a predetermined configuration;

said apparatus comprising an extrusion head comprising a male die and a female die coaxially mounted between each other around a same longitudinal axis substantially parallel to the conveying direction of said transmissive elements, said male die comprising a first portion comprising a plurality of guiding ducts arranged according to said predetermined configuration, and said female die comprising a first portion coaxially mounted around said plurality of guiding ducts.

49. (New) The apparatus according to claim 48, wherein said first portion of the female die comprises a multi-lobed radially inner wall adapted to form a sheath comprising a plurality of substantially lobe-shaped longitudinal portions.

50. (New) The apparatus according to claim 48, wherein said male die further comprises a second portion within which a plurality of longitudinal cavities is defined, said longitudinal cavities being arranged according to said predetermined configuration and being intended to support said plurality of guiding ducts.

51. (New) The apparatus according to claim 48, wherein said first portion of the male die further comprises a flow shutter element positioned among said guiding ducts to define a plurality of first interspaces between said flow shutter element and each of said guiding ducts and a second interspace between said flow shutter element and said first portion of the female die.

52. (New) The apparatus according to claim 51, wherein said flow shutter element has a shape substantially mating said plurality of guiding ducts and said first portion of the female die.

53. (New) The apparatus according to claim 51, wherein said flow shutter element longitudinally extends from said second portion of the male die.

54. (New) The apparatus according to claim 51, wherein said plurality of first interspaces has a substantially constant thickness.

55. (New) The apparatus according to claim 51, wherein said female die is provided with at least one longitudinal protrusion arranged in an intermediate zone

between two adjacent guiding ducts and intended to form a respective longitudinal weakening line of the sheath of the cable.

56. (New) The apparatus according to claim 51, wherein in each of said first portion and second portion of the male die at least one further central cavity is defined, said further central cavity being intended to receive at least one longitudinal reinforcing element of the cable.